

The blame game will not feed the hungry. We can and must do better now.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE VIRGIL MARCUS JONES, SR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the Honorable Virgil Marcus Jones, Sr., who passed away peacefully at the age of 60.

Mr. Jones graduated from the Bradwell Institute in Liberty County where he played varsity basketball. After high school, he attended Morris Brown College as well as Georgia State University.

He served his community at the Liberty County Tax Commissioner's Office as a clerk before becoming the first African-American male to become Liberty County's tax commissioner in 2007.

Virgil was also a leader at St. James A.M.E. Church where he served as trustee, the finance steward, the youth adviser, and as a member of the gospel choir and male choir.

Georgia's resolution, H.R. 1302, was adopted to honor Virgil's memory as one of Georgia's most distinguished citizens.

Virgil Jones, Sr., will be remembered by all the lives that he touched.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF HERB CAMPBELL

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to Herb Campbell, a World War II veteran, who passed away at the age of 98.

Born in Kirtland, Ohio, Herb enlisted in the U.S. Army to fight in World War II, proudly serving our country and earning three Bronze Stars.

Herb used the skills and expertise he gained while fighting in the Pacific theater to create his company, Campbell's Erosion Control, which dutifully served the people of the First Congressional District.

Herb was a member of Ohio Operating Engineers, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Christ Church.

Herb was a father to his 13 children and a grandfather to his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Among many other hobbies, he liked to garden, dance, and, above all, spend time with his family.

Herb's legacy will live on as the prime example of what it means to serve and put others before yourself.

RECOGNIZING MANFRED "FRED" HARPOLE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fred Harpole for his hard work and leadership as he retires from his position as assistant director for FLECT Core Training Operations Directorate.

In his position, Harpole is responsible for providing oversight of the firearms division, driver and marine division,

enforcement operations division, and physical techniques division. Additionally, he manages oversight of the FLETC Artesia, New Mexico, training delivery point.

Harpole became a member of the FLETC team in March of 2020 as the deputy assistant director for CTO. Shortly after, Harpole was promoted to the position of assistant director.

Prior to his service at the FLETC, Harpole served in multiple operations and training positions for both TSA and the Federal Air Marshal Service. His background, skills, and firsthand insight have made him a valuable source of information for public officials.

Mr. Harpole, who began his law enforcement career in 1987 with the Milwaukee Police Department, will be revered into the future for his dedication to public service and the protection of the American people.

REMEMBERING BOB COBLE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Bob Coble, a local Savannahian who positively impacted the lives of his families, friends, and others within the community.

Though born in North Carolina, Coble lived most of his life in Long and Liberty Counties. He served in various industries and accumulated multiple skills throughout his adult life. Before retiring as an electrical engineer, Coble was a bailiff for the Long County Probate and Superior Courts. He also demonstrated his devotion to his country by serving in the U.S. Army, during which he fought in Vietnam.

In addition to his other roles, Coble served the younger citizens of Georgia's First District as he repeatedly served as a helper for Santa Claus and Easter Bunny festivities along with supporting youth development at the Masonic Children's Home.

Coble's achievement and works of service for the community and the Nation have left a lasting mark that will be remembered far into the future.

SUPPORT UKRAINE'S EFFORT TO DEFEAT PUTIN'S ILLEGAL INVASION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Madam Speaker, I am really proud to say, in large part, thanks to the leadership of President Joe Biden, that when the U.S. has been called upon to help our allies, we have answered that call.

When I was standing with President Zelenskyy years ago, we warned him of the pending attack that was coming his way. We shared intelligence with him. Frankly, it was intelligence that he didn't believe. We shared that intelligence with the world as well, and we clearly demonstrated the clear and present threat that was coming his way.

When Ukraine then called us for help in the immediate aftermath of Russia's illegal attack on Ukraine, we, the United States, answered. When the Ukrainian people held off Putin's advance and called, again, for additional resources to sustain their defenses, we, the United States, again, answered.

When Ukraine's military offensive took back the Black Sea and asked, again, for more advanced weaponry for their battle-tested troops, we, the United States, answered.

Yet now, when the Russian military is retreating in some regions and on the brink of doing so in many more areas as well, we are not answering Ukraine's repeated attempts and calls for help again. When Ukraine is now literally running out of bullets, we are not answering their call for help.

This is why my pride in our leadership and in the United States has become overcome with anger because, yet again, this Chamber is about to recess without having provided aid to Ukraine.

Yesterday, in the House Armed Services Committee, I heard one of my Republican colleagues say not once, not twice, but three times that Putin is, indeed, a war criminal.

I am quoting him here: As we see the attacks from war criminal Putin on the democracy of Ukraine, we are so concerned by the efforts of war criminal Putin and their allies of Iran and China.

The question was: What is your assessment of China and Iran helping war criminal Putin?

Madam Speaker, I agree with my colleague. Putin is a war criminal, which is exactly why we must be providing aid to Ukraine.

The inaction of Congress, and specifically this House, this body, and specifically Speaker of the House, Mr. JOHNSON, to support Ukraine is putting the United States and the world in peril.

My dad was born in Lviv, which was then Poland and now Ukraine. He was born in 1942. His father, my grandfather, was murdered during the Holocaust along with nearly every member of his immediate family. We know what happens when the United States does not lead but rather turns a blind eye and turns inward.

My family tree is bare and hollowed out and is a stark reminder of what happens when we allow tyrants to invade other nations and to wage merciless and illegal wars. My family is not alone. Millions of lives were lost because of the United States' reticence to engage in 1939.

I would also like to remind my colleagues that this is not a handout. First, many of these munitions are developed by Americans, supporting U.S. businesses. Second, we are giving Ukraine our aging weaponry and purchasing new and more advanced technologies for our troops. Finally, we are supporting Ukraine and supporting our American way of life without a single loss of Americans.

Not a single American servicemember has been deployed to Ukraine, but there are American servicemembers in nearby NATO countries who will be in harm's way should Putin continue his illegal and expressed desire to put NATO on the warpath.

Americans should not need a history lesson about what happens to our way of life when Europe falls to the chaos of war, but, clearly, some of my colleagues do.

So what on Earth are we doing here?

We are called to D.C. for vote after vote on bill after bill that stand no chance of passing in the Senate when we should be using this valuable time doing our job and passing Ukraine aid.

If Ukraine aid were brought up today for a vote, it would pass. It would pass the House, supported by scores and scores of Republicans and Democrats alike, like the ones who have called Putin a war criminal. It also has already passed the Senate, and President Biden would sign it into law tomorrow.

I love this country. I have served this country in uniform. It is the greatest honor of my lifetime to serve my country and my community in Congress. It is because of this love for the same country that took my father and my grandmother as Holocaust refugees that I stand here today and express my deep and profound anger at the positively undemocratic way in which Speaker JOHNSON is withholding our vote on Ukraine.

The *deja vu* of giving these remarks is literally nauseating. I am apoplectic. It is 1939 again, and this is not an exaggeration. It is about our standing as a nation. It is about a lasting peace in a democratic world order.

In 24 hours this House will adjourn yet again, and if Democrats held the gavel, there would be no further delay. I will say that again: If Democrats held the gavel, then Ukraine would have the support they needed.

I do not want to be right. I really don't want Ukraine to fall. I just want to be able to vote on Ukraine and defeat Putin. I demand a vote.

□ 1030

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND FOOD SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, many Americans are wondering: Why are food prices so high? What causes this? Why, even on occasions in the land of plenty, do we see food shortages of certain types on our shelves?

It really boils down to several factors. Energy independence is one of them. Food security and energy independence go hand-in-hand.

It is certainly time for President Biden and his administration to take action to renew our economic vitality. Instead of supporting our farmers and

ensuring a stable food supply, it appears agriculture and the industry itself have been turned into a partisan issue, leaving farmers to fend for themselves in a really hostile regulatory environment.

As we navigate these challenges facing our ag sector, it is crucial to recognize the far-reaching implications of the Biden administration's anti-American energy policy. The push to have everything convert to electric vehicles, whether it is our cars, pickups, tractors, trucks, let alone our appliances at home, is going to be, indeed, very costly and probably not even possible with the energy grid we currently have, especially with anti-energy policies.

They really play heck trying to get a new power plant sited, even a nuclear power plant. In my district right now, they are tearing down hydroelectric dams, which is clean, reliable, CO₂-free power.

If that is not enough, what we are looking at is, on the other side of the scale for farmers trying to provide food, water is not allocated, especially in my home State, that is due them for their water rights. We had almost record rain and snowpack last year, and it is pretty good this year. Yet, there are areas in the San Joaquin Valley that are only going to receive 15 percent of their normal allocated water rights.

Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleagues that my home State of California grows all of these crops here, somewhere between 100 percent or a little less, that the U.S. relies on. Otherwise, these would be imported crops. So many of them come from my home State of California, yet we can't get the water supply, even though we could store it. We are watching so much of it be washed out to the ocean through the delta for no good reason.

The Army Corps of Engineers uses 50-year-old manuals to decide how much water they should keep in their reservoirs up to that point where they stop their conservation mode for flood control. I get it. Flood control is needed, but we have 500,000 acre-feet of space still left in Lake Oroville, 600,000 acre-feet of space left in Shasta Lake, and it is not coming up fast enough to meet an April 1 mark, let alone get full by May or June.

What does that mean? Several hundred thousand acre-feet of water probably left on the table that aren't going to grow these crops right here—and people are wondering why their food is expensive.

Energy policy is driving up the cost of diesel. It doubled fuel for me and my farm and everybody else a couple of years ago, and it tripled the cost of fertilizer for farmers across the country, all because of bad energy policy.

When my colleagues on the other side of the aisle shut down pipelines, shut down exploration, shut down the ability to make our own energy in this country and have to rely on importing it from, a lot of times, adversarial

countries, what do citizens expect is going to happen to the cost of anything since everything is so energy dependent and energy based in our economy?

Indeed, if we are going to grow this food in California or in our own country, we are going to have a much more secure situation with our food supply and stability across the board. As we know, food security is national security, so Americans feel the cost of high energy, high food costs, high just about everything, and a lot of this has happened in the last 3 years. We had a lot more stability under the previous administration.

COVID was weaponized to try to shut down a lot of our country, a lot of our economy, and make people stay at home. Indeed, that had an effect we are still feeling. Even our kids in school are feeling that still because of an overbearing COVID policy that has also added trillions to our national debt.

What are we going to do? Are we going to have an energy policy that makes sense, or do we want to rely on China for imported food and other products and the Middle East for imported oil?

I personally think we are going to get a heck of a lot better product growing these crops in California or elsewhere in the United States than by relying upon others to send it to us because, when the chips are down, America is always there for other people, but they aren't necessarily going to be there for us if we have our own crisis.

We are the last bastion. We are the last beacon many times in the world. We have to hold our leaders accountable for an energy policy and putting our food policy up front as well. We need to pass a farm bill soon.

RECOGNIZING AMY GOOD

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EZELL). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I love recognizing our community mothers in Detroit.

Amy Good founded Alternatives for Girls, a nationally recognized organization serving at-risk youth women in southeast Michigan. For the past 37 years, Amy Good has led Alternatives for Girls with integrity and commitment to the organization's mission to ensure a better quality of life and future for girls and young women who have survived homelessness, violence, and trauma.

With their support, many young girls can go on to succeed in school, graduate, and become leaders in our communities by providing shelter, housing, mentorship programs, skills training, and much more.

With Amy's partnership, I am so proud to announce that our office was able to secure \$1.1 million for the Alternatives for Girls to construct the Dr. Maya Angelou Village that will create 45 units of affordable, integrated